

Disposal of Used Needles, Syringes, etc.

When you are diagnosed with a condition that requires the use of syringes, it's important to ask your doctor or pharmacist where it is legal to dispose of your used needles. After being used, many sharps end up in home and public trash cans or flushed down toilets. This kind of improper disposal puts people, such as sanitation workers, sewage treatment workers, janitors, housekeepers, family members and children at risk for needle stick injuries or infection with viruses such as Hepatitis B and C and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV).

Sharps is a term for medical devices with sharp points or edges that can puncture or cut the skin. Such medical devices include hypodermic needles and syringes used to administer medication; lancets or fingerstick devices to collect blood for testing; needle and tubing systems for infusing intravenous and subcutaneous medicines; and connection needles used for home hemodialysis.

Used sharps may be disposed 24-hours per day at the Colma Fire District, located at 50 Reiner Street, Daly City. The large white metal box (looks like a mail box) is located in the parking lot next to the barn. If you cannot locate the receptacle, please knock on the door of the fire station and ask for assistance.